

THE OLD STONE WALL

E-Newsletter of the NH Division of Historical Resources

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Summertime is field school time!

It wouldn't be an NHDHR summer without field school! This year, we returned to the Hollow at Livermore Falls to continue investigating a foundation from the site's 19th century mill history as well as intact features discovered last year that indicate earlier Native American occupation.

David Trubey, NHDHR's compliance archaeologist, directed the Livermore field school again this year. The crew recovered ceramic fragments, nails and window glass from a cellar hole; many of those items show signs that a fire took place at the site. Native American artifacts recovered include chipping debris and other signs of habitation.

"It's always exciting to be out in the field," said Trubey. "But the real excitement happens back in the lab, when we begin to analyze the artifacts and put together the story of those who had lived on site." The Hollow field school is a unique opportunity because it encompasses two very distinct time periods and cultures within close proximity of each other.

NHDHR-led field schools are coordinated through our [NH State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program \(SCRAP\)](#) and conform to archaeology standards set by the [National Park Service](#). Participants receive hands-on experience in data recovery techniques, artifact identification and excavation documentation. This year, participants range from a recent high school graduate to retirees, and come from as far away as Alaska.

The Hollow field school was held in cooperation with NH State Parks - which, like NHDHR, is a division of the [NH Department of Natural & Cultural Resources](#). Excavations took place there under the supervision of trained archaeologists, and it's worth a reminder that, with few exceptions, historic resources found on state property belong to the state, so it is illegal to dig or use metal detectors on state property. See [RSA 227-C:6](#) for details.



This year's field school participants were successful in discovering artifacts spanning across two time periods, including a projectile point and the neck of a ceramic jug.



Commissioner Sarah L. Stewart now leads the NH DNCR team

Hellos, updates and "until we meet again..."

The [NH Department of Natural & Cultural Resources](#), welcomed a new commissioner in June. Highly regarded for her consensus-building abilities, **Sarah L. Stewart's** experience with the media, coalition development and policy know-how has helped her successfully guide corporations, non-profits, political organizations and

individuals through issue advocacy, grassroots lobbying and stakeholder engagement processes. "New Hampshire's historic downtowns are the backbone of our local economy and are places where the divisions of our department intersect in powerful ways," she said. "I'm excited to help raise awareness about all that the DNCR has to offer."

Summer has also brought about several other changes at the NHDHR. **Richard Boisvert**, New Hampshire state archaeologist for more than 30 years, retired in July. Dick is well-known nationally for his work studying Paleoindian sites but also as a great teacher, colleague and teller of Dad jokes. We'll miss him and hope he'll pop by field school now and then.

Taking the reins -- or, more appropriately, the trowel -- from Dick is **Mark Doperalski**, who has a passion for public archaeology and more than twenty years of cultural resources management experience from across the country. We look forward to him joining the NHDHR team in August.



*Past, present and future NH state archaeologists:
Gary Hume, Dick Boisvert and Mark Doperalski (left to right)*

Two long-time staff members have recently taken on new responsibilities: **Nadine Miller** is now deputy state historic preservation officer, and **Tanya Krajcik** is deputy state archaeologist.

Rounding out our update, we have two new GIS specialists working on our Enhanced Mapping and Management Information Tool (EMMIT) project: **Marika Labash** and **Kristen Powell**. Both Marika and Kristen combine cultural resources knowledge and experience with GIS skills and are doing the detail work needed to release EMMIT to the public by year's end.

Can you guess what that "P" stands for on the latest Moose

Plates?

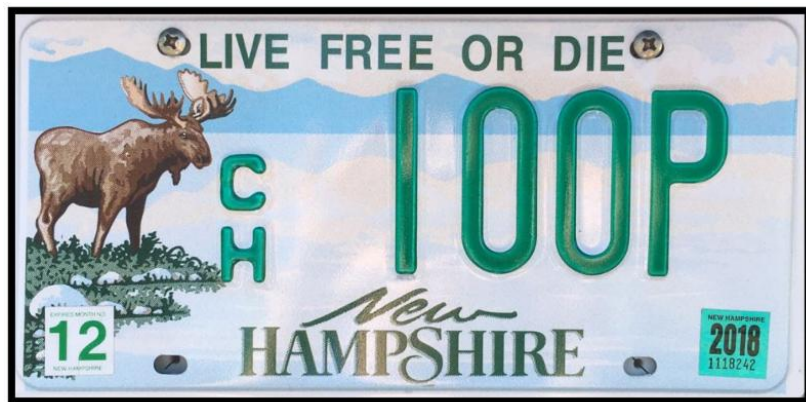
Travelers on New Hampshire's roadways this summer have something new to watch for when they play the license plate game: the state's popular Moose Plate program has added the letter "P" to plate combinations -- with the "P" representing "preservation."

When the first Conservation Number Plates were issued in December 2000, the letter "C," for "conservation," was part of each standard five-digit number combination. As "C" plates sold out, the letter "H," for "heritage," replaced the "C."

Funds from Moose Plate sales support a wide variety of conservation, heritage and preservation programs in New Hampshire, including the [NHDHR's Conservation License Plate grant program](#). Other programs receiving funding include planting wild flowers along New Hampshire highways, protecting threatened plant and animal species, securing conservation easements and preserving publicly owned historic documents, works of art and artifacts.

Every dollar raised through the sales of Moose Plates goes directly to supporting designated programs. More than \$20 million has been raised since the program began and projects in all 10 New Hampshire counties have benefitted from Moose Plate funds.

More information about the Moose Plate program is available at mooseplate.com as well as on the program's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts.



*You can show your support for NH preservation projects
with a "P" Moose Plate!*

Last remaining historic guard house in NH named to National Register of Historic Places

The NHDHR is proud to announce that **Fabyan Guard Station** in the [White Mountain National Forest](#) has been honored by the United States Secretary of the Interior with placement on the National Register of Historic Places.

Important both for its use in conservation and as an example of rustic architecture, the well-preserved Fabyan Guard Station, built in 1923, also has a high degree of historic integrity. The station was the first administrative building constructed by the US Forest Service on the White Mountain National Forest, and it is the last remaining example of a Guard Station in New Hampshire.

A one-room, 16-by-22 foot log cabin, hand built by White Mountain National Forest

rangers from local materials, Fabyan served as local headquarters for all nearby Forest Service activities, including the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930s.

Made from hand-hewn native spruce logs cut and notched on site, the cabin's simple architectural details are characteristic of an early 20th-century guard station, including a single door made from vertical planks and held in place by strap hinges, and a gable roof made of pine boards covered with cedar shakes. The single room interior has wide pine board floors with mid-20th century linoleum "rugs," a kitchen area with cast iron sink, and beaver board panels covering the ceiling. In addition to the cabin, a board and batten-sided outhouse and a corrugated metal storage shed contribute to the property's history.



[left-right] Fabyan Guard Station in 1926 and today (U.S. Forest Service photos)

In recent years the White Mountain National Forest has invested time and resources to preserve Fabyan Guard Station, including a multi-week volunteer project in 2014 in partnership with HistoriCorps to replace deteriorated logs and vandalized windows, a partnership with the Appalachian Mountain Club construction crew to install a new cedar shingle roof, and participation by the White Mountain National Forest Youth Conservation Corps to maintain the grounds around the cabin and install an interpretive panel. (See [My New Hampshire: New Hampshire's Five-Year Preservation Plan, 2016-2020](#) to read the success story about the HistoriCorps project.)

Listing to the National Register comes during the White Mountain National Forest's centennial celebration. In 2015, the White Mountain National Forest, HistoriCorps and [WhiteMountainHistory.org](#) -- which also helped write the National Register nomination -- were honored by the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance with a Preservation Achievement Award for their work to preserve Fabyan.

In New Hampshire, listing to the National Register makes applicable property owners eligible for grants such as the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program or LCHIP ([lchip.org](#)) and the Conservation License Plate Program ([nh.gov/nhdhr/grants/moose](#)), among other benefits. Listing does not impose any property restrictions.

For more information about the National Register program in New Hampshire, visit [nh.gov/nhdhr/programs/national_register.html](#).

**Tavern, libraries, airfield hangar
among those flying onto NH State**



Register of Historic Places

The NHDHR is pleased to announce that the State Historical Resources Council has added eight properties to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places.

Alexandria Town Hall's Craftsman details are unusual both in Alexandria and among New Hampshire town halls. It has served the needs of local organizations, including the Cardigan Grange, from the time it was built in 1913 and it remains the site of the town's deliberative

session and town meeting.

The **George Gamble Library** in Danbury combines Colonial Revival and Queen Anne style architectural details; its rusticated concrete block exterior, stuccoed pediment and original double-leaf wood paneled doors are among its original well-preserved features. Built in 1911, it continues to serve Danbury's literary needs today.

The **Stone House Tavern** has been the site of hospitality in Chesterfield since 1831, functioning as a tavern, stagecoach stop, tea room, restaurant and inn. The Federal style building, with an older ell that was moved and attached to serve as a kitchen, has a second floor ballroom.

St. John's United Methodist Church was the largest house of worship in Jefferson when it was built in 1868; members built three smaller chapels to accommodate the region's summer visitors. Originally painted red, the Italianate style building remains nearly unchanged on the outside and is now home to the historical society.

One of the earliest Colonial Revival churches in Belknap County, the **First Unitarian Universalist Church** in Laconia is also considered one of the finest. Built in 1939-40, its central square tower, shallow projecting front pavilion, small portico and octagonal belfry distinguish this local landmark.

Since 1929, **Parlin Field Hangar** has been part of Newport's Corbin Field, one of twelve municipally-owned general aviation airports in New Hampshire. The hangar is an example of a pre-fabricated metal utilitarian building that rose in use and popularity during the early days of airplane travel.

One of only three Shingle style buildings in Walpole, **Bridge Memorial Library** stands out for both its native fieldstone and wood-shingled façades. Built in 1891, it was designed by architect W.R. Emerson, who also designed buildings in Newport, RI, Bar Harbor, Maine and the National Zoo.

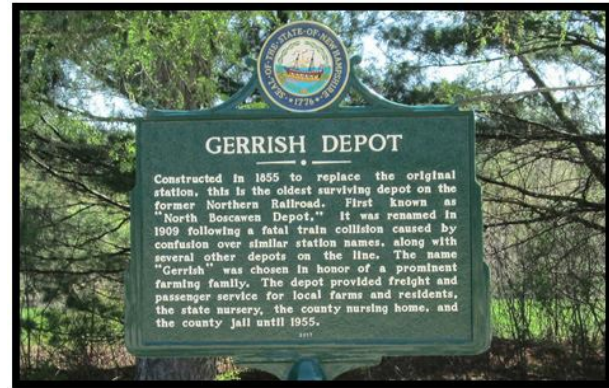
Joined by a circa 1912 ell, **Wilmot Town Hall and the District 1 Schoolhouse** have served multiple functions in Wilmot for more than 100 years. While the white clapboarded Town Hall is fairly plain, the Schoolhouse -- which became the town library in the early 1970s -- has Greek Revival details.

Anyone wishing to nominate a property to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places must research the history of the nominated property and document it fully on an individual inventory form from the NHDHR. Having a property listed in the State Register offers a number of benefits but does not impose restrictions on property owners. Learn more about the New Hampshire State Register of Historic

NH Historic Highway Markers: Collect 'em all!

This spring, the 256th New Hampshire Historical Highway Marker was installed, honoring the **Gerrish Depot** in Boscawen. The marker reads:

"Constructed in 1855 to replace the original station, this is the oldest surviving depot on the former Northern Railroad. First known as 'North Boscawen Depot,' it was renamed in 1909 following a fatal train collision caused by confusion over similar station names, along with several other depots on the line. The name 'Gerrish' was chosen in honor of a prominent farming family. The depot provided freight and passenger service for local farms and residents, the state nursery, the county nursing home, and the county jail until 1955."



Managed by the Historic Sites Bureau in the [NH Department of Natural & Cultural Resources](#) -- Gerrish Depot is undergoing historic rehabilitation. Its roof was recently resheathed with the help of Conservation License Plate funds.

The marker program was established in 1958, when the first marker was installed in Pittsburg. These markers are not just signposts along the way: they serve as motivation for people to experience New Hampshire history, travel around the state, and to talk about the importance of what the markers commemorate. Visiting markers has become a hobby for some; [NH Chronicle did a story](#) recently about a family whose goal is to visit each one!

To help you plan your own marker trip, visit the NHDHR's [New Hampshire Historic Highway Marker story map](#), which shows all marker locations and includes an image of each.

Do you have a topic that you think would make a great marker? You can learn more about the process at nh.gov/nhdhr/markers/index.html.

Keep climbing!

For **Preservation Month** in May, the NHDHR focused on an important -- and often unsung -- aspect of New Hampshire's history: our fire towers. We took to our Twitter account, [@NHDHR_SHPO](#), to highlight several towers across the state, to share some fun facts about their history and to show

off these beautiful structures via archival and current photos.

The campaign was a terrific success! Several newspapers wrote articles focused on fire towers and their role in preserving New Hampshire's landscapes; we also received lots of action on social media.

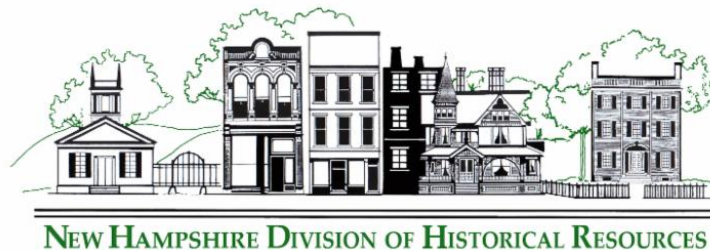
We encourage you to visit as many New Hampshire fire towers as you can, to share your trips via social media and to keep adding images of them to our [My New Hampshire map](#). Make the trip to five and you can get a [Tower Quest](#) patch from the NH Division of Forest & Lands, which is also part of the [NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources](#). Wear yours with pride!



In May, NHDHR staff visited the Warner Hill Fire Tower in Derry, with our guide A.J. Dupere from the NH Division of Forests & Lands

Stay involved in historic preservation

Between issues of *The Old Stone Wall*, you can remain active in New Hampshire's preservation community. Good places to start are your local community's historic and preservation organizations, the [NH History Network](#) and the [NH Preservation Alliance website](#).



Working together to preserve and celebrate New Hampshire's irreplaceable historic resources through education, stewardship and protection.

preservation@dncr.nh.gov | nh.gov/nhdhr

[@NHDHR_SHPO](#)

[@My_NewHampshire](#)

YouTube: [NH Division of Historical Resources](#)

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